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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Farina et al.)
Serial No.: 10/797,817)
Filed: March 10, 2004) Group Art Unit: 1743
For: I-Shaped Slit in a Lidstock Covering an Array) Examiner: Unknown
of Aliquot Vessels)
Atty Docket No.: DCS-9160 CIP)

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed for the above-referenced application the following:

- 1) Preliminary Amendment (2pgs, 1cc); and
- 3) a Return Postcard.

Respectfully submitted,

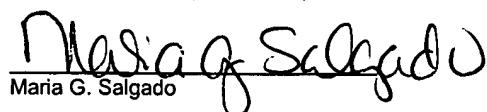


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this
7 day of June 2004.



Maria G. Salgado



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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above identified application on its merits, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment. Please amend the application as described on the following pages.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page one, before the first sentence, please insert a new sentence

-- This application is a Continuation-in-part of US Serial Number 10/622,671 filed on July 18, 2003, which is currently pending. --

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I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage, as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 7 day of June, 2004.

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